

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-43 (Cancelled)

44. (Previously presented) A method for isolating a defined and consistent amount of DNA from multiple samples comprising:

- (a) contacting each sample with a discrete amount of a silica-containing solid support, each sample comprising DNA in excess of the binding capacity of the discrete amount of silica-containing solid support, under conditions that allow reversible binding of the defined amount of DNA to the solid support; and
- (b) separating each sample from the support to isolate a defined and consistent amount of DNA from each sample.

45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, further comprising:

- (c) separating the DNA of step (b) from the support.

46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the silica-containing solid support comprises silica magnetic particles.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the silica magnetic particles are porous.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the silica magnetic particles are nonporous.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the silica magnetic particles are siliceous-oxide coated magnetic particles.

50. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44, wherein the ~~medium comprises conditions comprise the presence of~~ a chaotropic salt.

51 (Previously presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the chaotropic salt comprises guanidine thiocyanate.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the DNA is genomic DNA.

53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the DNA is plasmid DNA.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, further comprising analyzing the defined amount of DNA of step (b).

55. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44 wherein the ~~medium is sample comprises~~ a solid ~~medium support~~.

56. (Currently amended) The method of claim 55 wherein the ~~medium support~~ is paper.

57. (Currently amended) The method of claim 55, wherein the ~~solid medium support~~ is a swab.

58. (Currently amended) The method of claim 55 wherein the ~~medium support~~ is a forensic sample.

59. (Currently amended) The method of claim 55, wherein the ~~medium sample~~ is contacted with a chaotropic salt.

60. (Currently amended) The method of claim 59, wherein the contacted ~~medium sample~~ is heated to a temperature of from about 60° to about 100°C.

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, further comprising determining at least a portion of the sequence the isolated DNA.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising washing the solid support prior to step (c).

63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 62, wherein the solid support is washed with a solution comprising an alcohol and a salt.

64. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the DNA of step (c) is separated by eluting with water.

65. (Previously presented) The method of 50, wherein the concentration of chaotropic salt is between about 0.1 M and 7 M.

66. (Previously presented) A method of amplifying DNA comprising amplifying at least one sequence within the defined amount of DNA of claim 44.

67. (Previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein the at least one sequence comprises at least one short tandem repeat sequence.

68. (Previously presented) The method of claim 67, wherein the at least one short tandem repeat sequence comprises the CODIS loci.

69. (Previously presented) A kit for isolating a defined and consistent amount of a DNA from multiple samples according to claim 44, the kit comprising:
a discrete amount of silica magnetic particles having the capacity to reversibly bind a defined amount of the DNA from the samples, the samples comprising DNA in excess of the binding capacity of the discrete amount of silica magnetic particles.

70. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 69 wherein the mediumsample comprises blood.

71. (Currently amended) The kit of claim 69, wherein the mediumsample comprises a solid support.

72. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 69, further comprising a chaotropic salt.

73. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 69, wherein the silica magnetic particles are provided in a solution comprising the chaotropic salt.

74. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 69 further comprising a wash solution.